GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 419 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2016/ ASHADHA 28, 1938 (SAKA)

PROBE INTO PATHANKOT ATTACK CASE BY JIT

†419. SHRI KIRTI AZAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) of Pakistan along with the employees of Pakistani Intelligence agency, ISI visited Pathankot and other places in the country to probe the incident of terrorist attack on Pathankot Airbase;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the details of the composition of the Joint Investigation Team;
- (c) the justification for giving permission to JIT along with ISI to probe the terrorist attack on Pathankot Airbase; and
- (d) the findings of the Joint Investigation Team?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): A Five Member Joint Investigation Team (JIT) from Pakistan had visited India between 27th March, 2016 and 31st March, 2016 to collect, review and document physical evidences and to interview key witnesses and victims, through the National Investigation Agency, with regard to the Pathankot Airbase terror attack. The Five-Member JIT comprised of an Additional IGP, a DIG, two Lt. Colonels and one Inspector.

(c) &(d): The Government of Pakistan constituted a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) on 25th February, 2016 under Section 19(I) of its Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997, to conduct investigation into an attack on Pathankot Air Force base, in furtherance to an FIR registered at Police Station Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD), Gujranwala in Pakistan. The JIT informed that they were collecting admissible evidence outside Pakistan under the provisions of the CrPC of Pakistan, that will legally enable them to use the evidence in prosecution. The interaction of JIT with NIA was permitted in accordance with the Terms of Reference mutually agreed on the basis of reciprocity. The exercise was aimed at providing evidence to the JIT so that all those guilty of Pathankot attack could be prosecuted effectively in Pakistan The NIA briefed the JIT on investigations carried out in the Pathankot Airbase terror attack. The Pakistan JIT, in turn, shared with NIA the results of investigations carried out by them in Pakistan. The Pakistan JIT assured of their full cooperation and promised to execute the LR, which had been received by them.

The findings of the JIT, if any, have not been shared with the Government of India, so far.
